

## THE CURRENT.

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Official Paper of Eddy County.

Published every Saturday at Carlsbad, N.M., and entered as 2nd class mail matter.

SATURDAY Oct. 26, 1889.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.  
WEEKLY—by mail per annum..... \$1.00  
By mail per six months..... \$0.50

A few hundred dollars judiciously expended in the way of cleaning the streets of all rubbish, and improving the sidewalks, would be of untold benefit to Carlsbad just at this time. To tell the plain fact, the appearance of the town is not what it should be to impress a stranger, especially one who is seeking a healthful place, and this is the class of people who are wanted here; they have money and will stop and spend it here, provided the town can afford accommodations. The main object in changing the name of the town from Eddy to Carlsbad was to impress people with the fact that the town is a resort; certainly there something must be done to make the town look healthful, if nothing more. Once the town is thoroughly cleaned up and the sidewalks put in proper shape, it will cost very little to keep it that way. The question is, are the people willing to drudge along in all this rubbish and filth and see dozens, perhaps more, health seekers go elsewhere to spend the winter when a few hundred dollars expended on the streets and sidewalks and in cleaning up the town would keep them here?

It is time to call a halt and consider this matter seriously. Carlsbad is a health resort or nothing. True we have some farming interests (very little though) and the stock interests to rely upon but what will become of the town should a good long drouth sweep the stock interests away? Such things have been and will continue to be; the drouth is certainly coming sooner or later, then what will become of the business interests in Carlsbad? All business will be at a standstill and with nothing to draw from grass will be growing on the streets, whereas if the town was cleaned up so that its appearance would be inviting to those in search of health and a home the town would not feel the drouth or any other calamity that might befall it. The railroad shops and offices are numbered with the things that were, all because of lack of energy and enterprise on the part of the citizens of the town, and for no other reason. Other theories are advanced as to why the shops and headquarters were moved, but when sounded they are without foundation. The irrigation company is in the hands of a receiver and is consequently of little value to the town financially. Take the stock interests away without substituting something else instead and the town is ruined. The future of Carlsbad is in the hands of her citizens and unless the citizens are willing to make it a town, they alone will be the sufferers. There is not a better place in the world for invalids than right here in Carlsbad, yet it is a very difficult matter to convince people of this fact and weeds knee deep on the sidewalks and in the streets and the alleys strewed with filth. Every citizen with the welfare of himself and family at heart should rebel against the condition of such things and lend a hand at helping to get the town cleaned up, and the result will be marvelous in the extreme.

In a recent speech Senator John M. Thurston is reported to have said, in referring to the Philippines, "We must hold those islands if it takes every man in the United States and if it means the destruction of the entire population of the Philippines." A little over a year ago "by command of lips now silent," Senator Thurston delivered a speech in the cause of freedom that electrified the nation. Would that those lips might again be unsealed long enough to induce Senator Thurston to stand by those grand sentiments expressed by him on Cuban independence. Then his heart was softened by grief over the death of his wife who died on Cuban soil, and whose dying request was that her husband would speak for Cuban independence. Now but a little over a year removed from the tender influence of that noble hearted woman, and he gives utterance to the brutal sentiment quoted at the commencement of this article. Can you imagine Senator Thurston rising in the United States senate and "by the command of lips now silent," give utterance to the expression: "We must hold those islands if it takes all the men in the United States and if it means the destruction of the entire population of the Philippines?"

### Our Offense is Greater.

In the unanimity with which the public sentiment of civilized nations condemn the British course in the Transvaal there is plainly indicated the judgment that will be passed upon the United States for the subjugation of the Philippines and the denial of the right of self government to a liberty-

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No unprejudiced person can deny that the English have infinitely more of right on their side than have we. As a foundation for their grievances against the Boers they may claim that the franchise is being unjustly denied to many thousands of citizens of English blood resident in the Transvaal. Important British investments and enterprises are discriminated against by the Pretoria government. British suzerainty, heretofore acknowledged under treaty obligations, is now repudiated. British presence in South Africa is threatened. The traditions of the English, far from being antagonistic to the subjugation of territory contiguous to British possessions, encourage such an extension of empire. It is in entire consonance with the policy of a government whose proud boast of imperial sway is that its drum beat is heard around the world.

Deplorable as will be the crushing of the Boers by the British, how much more shameful and unpardonable is a hostile government of the Philippines by this republic, which stands before the world for liberty and the rights of man. There is no American interest which demands a more material advantage following Dewey's great victory than the gaining of a naval station in the Philippines and, in fairness, the holding of a seaboard city that shall open up the trade of the Orient to American merchants. Every tradition, principle and doctrine of this government sternly forbids us to deny freedom to the Filipinos. They had willingly gained it from the Spaniards, after many years of warfare, when we shattered the Spanish power in the East. Every victory of the Filipinos over the Spanish was hailed by us as a victory of patriots. The Filipino claims to the right of self-government is just as strong and valid now as when we recognized it then.

This government will distinctly and definitely justify itself before the world if the imperialists prevail in bringing about the permanent and forcible holding of the Philippines. It will announce to all men that the Monroe doctrine held good only until it seemed more profitable to repudiate it. It will amend the American declaration that all men are born free to read that such a birthright need not be respected by this world's stronger nations. It will say to the jealous and resentful powers of Europe that, while we will expect them to keep hands off the Western Hemisphere, we claim the

right to lay violent hands on territory to the east. It will make the menace of foreign complication and war eternal and militarism a necessity.

Are the American people ready and willing to commit this wrong and incur the inevitable penalty? Are they prepared to endanger American institutions for the sake of a Malay colony in the Orient? Are they equal to the task of breaking faith with the world for a money consideration? Are they eager to substitute imperialism and militarism for a republicanism which legitimately and beneficially dominates one half the world? The president and the administration party are asking that they do these things. It is time to formulate an answer.

#### Tribute to the Friars.

Those who have sought to misrepresent the work of the Catholic church in the Philippines and slander the self-sacrificing friars have said that one effect of the "power of Rome" in the islands is to be seen in the dense ignorance of the natives. It has been said that the people of the Philippines have been purposely kept without education by the friars, so that "Rome" might retain her hold upon them. We have shown long since how ridiculous is such a charge. Our proof in the main has come from Catholic sources. But now we are able to give a Protestant evidence of the enlightenment of the Filipinos. As these Filipinos owe everything to the work of the friars, it is evident their advanced condition is a credit to the church.

The Protestant who furnishes the evidence we refer to is Gen. Revere, who went to the Philippines as Colonel of the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteers, and was made a Brigadier-General for the gallant part he played in the taking of Manila. He was placed in charge of the details and responsible position of policing the city, a position which he filled with great success. "His duties," we are told by the New York Tribune, brought him closer perhaps to the natives of the city and island than any American officer had been, and he made the most of his opportunity. A keen observer with a wide knowledge of men and affairs, he made close study of the Filipino, his habits of thought and the possibilities the future held for him as a man and as a nation.

Gen. Revere, who has returned from Manila, was interviewed in this city last week by a Tribune reporter. He said:

"There seems to be much misconception in this country concerning the Filipino nation, which is generally regarded as being composed of semi-barbaric, uncouth and uneducated people. This is, however, far removed from the truth, for the natives are very generally educated. In the walled city are two universities which had previous to the war been well patronized by the Filipinos. The University of San Thomas, which was established in 1607, is one of these, and it has, without any exception, the most magnificent natural history collection I have ever seen. This collection has been catalogued in four royal octavo volumes by the friars and contains specimens of all the flora and fauna, geological specimens, birds, animal and insect, every form of animal and vegetable life which is to be found in the archipelago. The other is the Dominican University, which is of enormous size, and occupies two entire blocks within the walled city and previous to the outbreak of hostilities it carried no less than five thousand names of native students on its rolls. It teaches many branches of education including academic, law, medicine and applied sciences, with the complete necessary apparatus in all departments. In all the villages throughout the island also excellent schools are to be found, and I have heard it stated by competent authorities that 20 per cent of the natives are educated but this I think is an exaggeration. From persons' observation however, I should say that 60 per cent are educated. You find no female servants in the Philippines, all forms of

work being performed by men, and the Filipinos I have as ordinary house servants could read and write Spanish and understand figures in their simple form. The boys there are educated in church schools in the various villages, and I think in their schools, colleges and school of applied sciences they teach everything there that we do here in America, with the possible exception of telegraphy. There is another thing I want to speak of concerning them, and that is their entrance into the domain of modern professions. An English colonist told me, and I have no reason to doubt his statement, that among the doctors in Manila there were two or three native Tagalos, who were without superiors in their profession, and who were accomplished and conscientious surgeons. The best dentist in the city and on the island was Gen. Aravello, now one of Aguinaldo's army. He is a full-blooded Tagalo."

Besides this is not what could be said of a people kept in ignorance. And let it be remembered these universities and schools general Gen. Revere speaks of were established and conducted by the much misrepresented friars. But it is not in education alone that the natives are proficient. "Their working of gold silver and iron tools," Gen. Revere said, continuing, "is most skillful, and the jewelry they make is very beautiful. They model well in clay, and carve wood and iron in the most exquisite manner. Judging their finished work from the standpoint of a tyro in art matters, such as I am, it was to all appearances absolutely correct. Some of the best of the attorneys at the Manila bar are natives, and are well grounded in the theory and practice of their profession. Paterno said to be the present head of Aguinaldo's cabinet, and stabian Arayano, who have accumulated a large fortune, were both full-blooded Tagalos. As a matter of fact, since 1872 the Filipinos have sent to Asiatic and European universities two hundred of their young men annually. There are eleven schools for women alone in Manila, and beside the regular forms of education these women are taught sewing, embroidery and the like, as are girls in this country. They are taught by native nuns and their needle work is wonderful."

"And how about modern machinery?" was asked. "Do they have an aptitude for it?" "You know the complication of steam engines, and the trouble is to get them properly and efficiently run in some other countries," said the General. "For instance in Mexico no natives are employed as fitters and engineers, a responsible position which is wholly performed by white men. Well, on the only railroad on the island of Luzon, the Manila and Dagupan Railroad, the engineers, fitters, conductors and brakemen are all natives, as well as all the mechanics in the railroad shops. All the steamers plying between the island ports have native stokers and engineers. They are, also, a great race of sailors, as is natural from the nature of the island homes. Admiral Dewey used a large number of natives in the shops at the arsenal at Cavite, and told me he found they most satisfactory workmen. I brought home a carriage with me made wholly by them, and of native design. It resembles a baby coupe. Their carriages are made small on account of the diminutive size of their horses, which are a short-backed, sturdy race of immense strength, somewhat smaller than our polo ponies. The coupe which has alternating spokes, but in all other respects seems to me fully as good as those of American make."

Another combine is to be formed with the assistance of the accommodating corporation laws of New Jersey. It is to be organized for the purpose of controlling the manufacture of printers' ink. The capitalization is to be \$200,000,000, one-fifth being preferred stock, with 7 per cent cumulative dividends, and the remainder being common stock. The new company proposes to begin operations by underselling independent manufacturers, taking away their customers and driving them out of business. Then, when these unpleasant competitors have been disposed of, prices are likely to be run up to a point where the payment of the promised 7 per cent dividends on preferred stock will be possible.

The full name of the sultan of Sulu, who has just sworn allegiance to the United States, is Hadji Mohammed Womolo Kiram. That's no reason, however, why he can't become a pretty good American citizen, though he has a few more wives than the average American citizen. That, as the witnesses in municipal investigations are wont to reply to perplexing questions, may be regarded as "his own private business."

By the way, have these various and varied wives also recognized the sovereignty of the United States? This is a matter which should have the prompt attention of the Equal Suffrage association.

Possibly the case of Congressman Roberts of Utah, against whose admission to the Fifty-sixth congress there has been vigorous protest, might be settled by giving him some sort of an appointment to the court of the sultan of Sulu, where his views on polygamy would be in keeping with his surroundings.

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